(c) if not, whether on such stipulation would be provided in the building bye-laws; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Delhi is placed in Zone-IV of the Seismic Zoning Map.

(b) Presently construction of buildings in Delhi is governed by the Building Bye-laws which take care of the structural safety of the Buildings constructed/proposed to be constructed. These Buildings Bye-Laws are regulated and implemented through various agencies like the Delhi Development Authority, Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Council. The Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation has also been emphasizing the need for strictly curbing any violation of the Building bye-laws by any person or persons and has been stressing upon the local bodies/ authorities to take action as per Rules and Acts against unauthorised constructions.

(c) and (d) To give a greater thrust for making buildings quake resistant and structurally more sound prospectively, the Ministry has issued a Public Notice on February 01.2001 purporting to amend certain provisions of the Buildings bye-laws which would enable greater Structural Safety of the Buildings. A copy of the Public Notice is at Annexure. *[See* Appendix 192, Annexure No.3]. This modification, as evident, makes it mandatory that the structural design of foundation, masonry, timber, plain concrete, reinforced concrete pre-stressed concrete and structural steel would be carried out taking into consideration the Indian Standards for earthquake protection of Building and that the Standards for earthquake protection of Building and that the certificate of doing so would be signed by the owner and the architect.

Major racket in housing department of DDA

530. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a major racket has been unearthed recently in housing department of Delhi Development Authority;

(b) if so, die number of DDA and private individuals involved in it;

(c) the number of persons against whom cases have been registered; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that such rackets do not recur in DDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) The Delhi Development Authority has reported that a number of cases have been found in the Housing Department of DDA where fraudulent restoration of DDA flats as well as refund in certain cases were found. On the basis of preliminary enquiry, it was found that under Self Financing Scheme in various cases certain allotments were got restored through fake Signatures and Special Power of Attorney and through these methods possession of houses was taken and in various cases even refunds were made.

(b) On the basis of preliminary enquiry about the Self Financing Scheme cases, 8 officials of DDA were placed under suspension on 28.9.2000 as there was *prima facie* some evidence about their involvement. Besides, CBI also conducted raids at the residences as well as offices of 9 DDA officials on 10.11.2000 and all these officials have been put under suspension. In addition, CBI has also raided the offices and residences of 4 private persons, who are mainly property brokers and whose involvement in such cases has been found.

(c) No information has been given in writing by the Crime Branch (Economic Offences Wing), D- !hi Police about exact number of cases registered against these persons as investigation is on and 8 DDA officials have been arrested in this connection. CBI has also registered one FIR against 9 officials regarding fraudulent means adopted in the cases of restoration/refund in SFS as well as Expendable Housing Scheme flats of DDA.

(d) DDA has taken the following steps to streamline the procedure so that no wrong restoration/refund takes place:-

1. The system of restoring the cases through Grievances Redressal Committee (GRC) has been discontinued and in future each case will be considered on merits on individual file and put up to the competent authority for approval. This has been necessitated because complaints were such that since the GRC cases were discussed in bulk, personal attention could not be given to each individual case.
2. So far refunds were given at very low levels and even reduction in the cost was done at the level of Accounts Officer, Joint Financial Advisor, etc. Now instructions have been issued that if there is any reduction in the cost or in the fifth and final demand letter, approval of Commissioner (Housing) will be essential before issuing that.

3. Orders have been issued that in future no refund will be sent at the address of Special Power Attorney. It will be given only to the original allottee generally by post.

4. It has also been decided that in future no settled cases will be reopened in the name of 31.3.1999 policy. Only those cases which have not been finalised so far will be examined as per policy only when all the 4 installments due by 22.8.1996 have been deposited by the original alloltee. If there is deferment of the last installement by DDA beyond 22.8.1996, then in those cases deposition of 3 installments will be adequate.

Handing over assigned plot to DVB by DDA

531. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether DDA has handed over the DVB the assigned plot for Electric Sub-Station in the Other Community Facility (OCF) area in Mayur Vihar, Phase-I Extension near Riverside Sports and Recreation Club, Delhi;

(b) if so, what progress have DDA and DVB made to implement the electrification scheme;

(c) whether DDA has released to DVB the required funds to complete the project; and

(d) the time frame by which the beneficiaries can draw electricity from the Sub-station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The DVB have reported that the necessary scheme for electrification has been prepared for sanction/approval of the competent authority. After finalisation of the scheme the DVB is to submit demand note to DDA for depositing the amount of DDA's share.

(d) It takes about six month for completion of civil works, installation of H.T. panels and transformers, and laying of HT/LT lines for providing electric connection to the beneficiaries.